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**Westinghouse
Electric Company**

Charles W. Pryor, Jr.
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Post Office Box 355
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September 13, 2001

Lake H. Barrett
Acting Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

SEP 26 2001

Dear Mr. Barrett:

Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC, is pleased to submit comments to the Department of Energy (DOE) on the *Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain*, published in Federal Register Notice (66FR43850).

Westinghouse supports a decision to recommend the Yucca Mountain site as a repository for spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste. From the review by various credible organizations, the Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) provides an adequate technical basis to proceed with the development of a repository at Yucca Mountain.

DOE should recommend to President Bush that Yucca Mountain be a repository site and should proceed to the next step, namely, the preparation and submission of a construction license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC review will provide another independent assessment to ensure public health and safety concerns have been properly addressed.

An acceptable repository for spent nuclear fuel is a vital element for our National Energy Policy by making available one more energy source to address future generation needs. An acceptable repository is also a positive step for the protection of our environment, given the emission-free electricity production by nuclear power.

Westinghouse supports a recommendation by the Secretary of Energy to President Bush that Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development as a repository of spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste, and for DOE to proceed to submit a license application to the NRC for a construction permit.

Sincerely,